

City takes first step in charter review

By Mike Steely
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Having completed a review of the Knoxville City Council's rules and procedures, the council is now turning to review the city's charter. "There's never been a deep look at the charter," said Vice Mayor Lynne Fugate Thursday as several council members began that process. The last full charter review was in 1988. Fugate chaired the meeting, which included council members Karyn Adams, Doug Lloyd, Debbie Helsley

and Nathan Honeycutt. Former vice mayors Bill Lyons and Nick Pavlis, who served in the recent rules group, were present, with Lyons walking the meeting through a proposal discussed in last year's September and October meetings. The city charter has been amended now and then over the years but has never been reviewed in its entirety. Currently, one charter change is on the ballot and, if passed, would permit the candidate getting more than

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Vice Mayor Lynne Fugate, center, headed the panel of five Knoxville City Council members in the initial step of a full review of the Knoxville City Charter. If approved, the council and mayor will select a Charter Review Panel for a year-long review and update of the city's guiding rules.

Wicked Cool costume contest invites Halloween enthusiasts to show off their style

Wicked Cool is in full swing, and as Halloween approaches, the Downtown Knoxville Alliance invites residents and visitors to enter the Wicked Cool costume photo contest before the celebration comes to an end Oct. 31. Entrants can compete in eight categories: Best Couple, Cutest, Best Family, Best Group (Themed), Best Hollywood/Broadway, Best Kid(s), Best Pet and Scariest. To enter, capture a photo in your costume with Downtown Knoxville as the backdrop – suggested photo spots are marked throughout the city center. Then, submit your entry at downtownknoxville.org/wicked/costume-contest or share it publicly on social media using #KnoxHalloween. "We love seeing the energy and creativity Wicked Cool brings to our city center," said Michele Hummel, executive director of the Downtown Knoxville Alliance. "We're inviting everyone to get into the Halloween spirit, take a photo downtown and share. Whether your costume is silly, spooky or somewhere in between, we want to see it!"



The Scarecrow, Glinda the Good and the Wicked Witch of the West bring a touch of Oz to a spooky Krutch Park. The Downtown Knoxville Alliance invites residents and visitors to enter the Wicked Cool costume photo contest before the celebration comes to an end Oct. 31.

Alliance's social media accounts by Nov. 6. The costume contest is part of the Wicked Cool Halloween celebration, which continues through Oct. 31 and includes:

- Trick-or-treating on Market Square: Businesses on Market Square and along Union Avenue between Gay and Walnut streets will hand out both candy and non-candy treats from 5-8 p.m. on Oct. 31.

- Wicked Cool Cats scavenger hunt: Search for nine mysterious black cats hiding in downtown business windows through Oct. 31. Scan the QR code on the cats to register to win gift cards from some of downtown Knoxville's most wicked businesses.
- Spellbinding sips, snacks and shopping: Through Oct. 31, enjoy themed treats, spooky drinks and "boo-tiques"

inside downtown shops, bars and restaurants to discover a haunted hoard of Halloween delights. The Downtown Knoxville Alliance presents Wicked Cool with the help of Dogwood Arts, City of Knoxville, Graphic Creations, Christmas Decor Plus More and downtown businesses and property owners. For more tricks and treats, visit downtownknoxville.org/wicked.

Funds for West Knoxville affordable rentals on council agenda

By Mike Steely
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The Knoxville City Council will consider awarding \$750,000 to a firm to help develop 25 affordable rental housing units along Lovell Road when it meets Tuesday. The Affordable Rental Development funds are being requested by the Housing and Neighborhood Development Department for a project planned by Impact Housing Indiana Corporation at 360 Lovell Road, just south of I-40 in West Knoxville. The council will also consider issuing a quitclaim deed for 412 Ocala Drive to East Tennessee

Housing Development Corporation. The vacant parcel may be sold for \$32,000 through the Homemakers Program for redevelopment. Keep Knoxville Beautiful may be contracted for \$150,000 to provide litter prevention and collection, graffiti removal and education efforts throughout the city. The Knoxville Police Department is asking for permission to trade firearms and ammunition with Accurate Tactical/Accurate Law Enforcement for new firearms and authorize a \$412 payment to complete the trade. Bob and Melynda Whetsel are appealing a Zoning Appeals Board

denial of a variance request. They want to increase the maximum allowed building coverage from 30% to 45% at 1231 Luttrell Street in a single-family residential zone. They also want to increase the surface coverage there from 40% to 71.5%. Design & Construction Services Inc. may get a contract of \$548,774 for the 2027 Sidewalk Replacement Project. The council will recognize the 50th Anniversary of Markman's Diamonds in a motion from District 2 Councilman Nathan Honeycutt. EyeMed Vision Care LLC and First American

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Strong turnout reported for first week of early voting

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The first week of early voting has been very good, with some polling places seeing long lines. According to the Knox County Election Commission, as of last Wednesday, 45,758 residents cast ballots, 2,127 of those absentee or nursing home votes. Those who voted Republican in the last primary led the totals with 15,924 in the county to the 9,075 who voted Democrat. In the city, Democrats led with 7,659 voters to 4,896 Republicans. In Farragut, 2,140 Republicans voted while 1,073 Democrats cast ballots. Voters 55 years old or older made up the bulk of voters, with 19,330 Republicans and 11,107 Democrats. Republican voters lead the totals in Districts 14, 16, 19 and 89. Democrats lead in Districts 15 and 90, with the voting fairly split in District 18.

More people have voted so far than at this point in the 2022 midterm, and about 17,000 fewer than in 2018. "Turnout has been very good thus far. Voters have taken advantage of all 11 locations and with good weather expected for the last week of early voting," Knox County Election Administrator Chris Davis told The Focus. "I expect to have a strong finish leading up to Election Day," Davis said. Early voting ends

Thursday, October 29. Election Day is November 3.

Candidates begin to announce for Knoxville Mayor

Knoxville's two-term mayor Indya Kincannon will leave office in 2027, and several candidates are emerging to replace her. Three have filed with the Knox County Election Commission and named their treasurers. While the city election is non-partisan, it is common knowledge that party politics play a major role in the city elections. At-large Councilwoman Amelia Parker, a Democrat who has been very critical of Mayor Kincannon, has filed with the Knox County Election Commission. Two Republicans and former candidates for city mayor, R. C. Lawhorn and Jeff Talman, also have filed to run. In the wings is Beau Hawk, a Democrat who lost by a narrow margin to Betsy Henderson for Knox County Mayor this year, who has said he may seek Kincannon's office. Other Democrats who may seek the position are former council members Andrew Roberto and Gwen McKenzie.

Political commentator Cortney Piper, a former candidate for Knox County Commission, is also being mentioned as

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Dr. Jim Ferguson

VOTE!

We shall nobly save or meanly (submissively) lose the last best hope of earth. Abraham Lincoln

In the dark days of the American Civil War, Abraham Lincoln concluded his 1862 State of the Union address by exhorting his fellow citizens to persevere in the war and save the country.

I am not being dramatic, but we face that same challenge today. During the Civil War, the southern Democrats of the Confederacy threatened the Union. Remember, the Republican Party was founded in 1854 to stop Democrats from spreading slavery across the United States. Today, it is the Democrats controlled by socialists, together with anarchists and Islamists, who again threaten “the

last best hope of earth.” Western civilization is under attack across Europe (France, Belgium, Italy, Spain, etc.) and also in America. Open-border policies in Europe without assimilation and failing economies have triggered revolt, fueled by more than 50 far-left groups and anarchists, including ANTIFA. President Trump and Vice President JD Vance have said that we are at similar risk.

If America votes to return Democrats to power, expect a resumption of open borders policy, tax dollars in support of illegal aliens, blanket citizenship for illegals and Main Street to become like the streets of Paris. In recent years, we have seen riots, looting and destruction in America with so-called “mostly peaceful

protests.” It can happen again as it did in, for example, Minneapolis.

I am certainly not prescient or clairvoyant like Madame Renee who once held shop on Alcoa Highway in Blount County. Like many Knoxvilleians, I used to drive by her parlor on the way to the airport and wondered what it would be like to predict the future. But I’m a realist and never ventured to have my palm read or gaze into a soothsayer’s crystal ball. Even Jesus avoided predicting when the “end times” would happen (Mathew 24).

When I practiced medicine, I often had to explain to patients the difference between associative phenomena and cause-and-effect relationships. As an example, some people with Covid were sickened by the China virus and died. Others were hospitalized for car wrecks, heart attacks, etc. However, during the pandemic, everyone entering the hospital was tested for Covid and some tested positive. The car wreck was not caused by Covid even if the screening test was positive. The two were associative phenomena, but there was no “cause and effect” relationship.

Another relationship conundrum is possibility and probability. It is possible our sun went nova five minutes before you began this essay. And since it takes light from the sun eight minutes to reach the Earth, your destruction is imminent. But relax. Our sun is in its midlife and does not possess sufficient mass to go nova. Therefore, the probability of exploding is virtually zero.

I preferentially operate with reason and avoid fortune tellers. And since I order my decision making based on probability rather than possibility, I’m not worried about the sun. But the riots in France, Belgium and Italy worry me as a portent (sign) of what may happen in America if socialists in the Democrat Party are elected.

As Paris and France burn, it’s decision time in America. You don’t need to go to a betting agency for odds of street chaos returning to Main Street. You just have to look at the pictures of chaos in Europe that arose after lax borders and economic mismanagement. Vote Democrat and you can expect a return to the disastrous Biden policies of open borders and you

can predict government paralysis in 2027 with non-stop impeachments, blanket citizenship for aliens and packing the Supreme Court.

This is not hyperbole. It is a high probability because the Democrat Socialists who now control the Democrat Party have said this is what they will do if Democrats regain power. France is the example of what happens with European-style socialism, years of open borders and failed assimilation and a failing economy. The anarchists wave Palestinian flags, burn churches and are calling the French riots the European Intifada. This is America’s future if Democrats are again given control of the government.

The Democrat Party has learned nothing since 2024. Their post-election analysis of that defeat was never published, and the party just doubled down on their failed policies. Actually, the Democrat Party has become even more radical. The current party is not the party of John Kennedy or even Bill Clinton. There are old-school Democrats still in existence. An example might be Pennsylvania Senator John Fetterman, but there is already a move to

primary him in 2028 and boot him out of the party. There is no room for tolerance among the most intolerant group of people in America. And voting for candidates representing the 2026 Democrat party has become suicidal. You worry about affordability and gas prices? I worry about mullahs with nuclear weapons and anti-American socialists/communists.

With their refusal to change and no policies other than hatred of President Trump in particular and Republicans in general (recent example: Michigan Senator Slotkin), the Democrats have made hatred of Trump their theme. As a result, Trump is on the campaign trail one last time even though he’s not on any ballot. Seventy-seven million voted for Trump in 2024, and the Pew Research Center reported his approval among his supporters is 67%. Therefore, if Trump’s supporters go to the polls and vote against the radical Democrats, we can avoid very hard times and perhaps save “the last best hope of earth.”

You may email Dr. Ferguson at fergusonj@knoxfocus.com

City takes first step in charter review

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50 percent in the primary to be declared the winner.

The second step is the adoption of the process and naming 13 members to the Charter Review Panel. Each city council member would name one member, and the city mayor would choose four members. Non-voting members will include the city law director, city attorney and city recorder. Lyons said the idea is to create a diverse group of members.

The Charter Review Panel would begin the deeper look at the charter no later than April 1 of next year and then review the charter every eight years in meetings open to the public. The panel is required to meet in four public sessions at different locations around the city during the process year and issue a report within 12

months of their first meeting.

District 1 Councilwoman Adams asked Lyons about the general process and Lyons said the panel would look for competing amendments and clean up items that are moot or compete with state law. The final report would include public input and, if approved by the council, would go on the ballot during the 2028 federal-state election.

District Three’s Lloyd asked if property owners who live outside the city might qualify for panel membership and that question might be reviewed, as non-resident property owners may currently vote in city elections.

District Two’s Honeycutt said the public process will give the effort structure and added, “The charter is not

set in stone.”

Fugate, who is also an at-large council member, said the panel’s membership could not reflect any district that would “overwhelm” the rest of the panel.

City Recorder Will Johnson mentioned that KUB and other organizations named in the current charter would be invited to the upcoming meetings. He also suggested that employee pensions not be part of the review since there is an existing pension board.

Pavlis called including the pensions in a charter review “difficult and extremely political,” and it would be “an injustice” to include it in the update. Fugate concluded the meeting saying that the matter should appear on an upcoming city agenda.

Strawberry Plains development rejected by commission

By Mike Steely
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The Knox County Commission, meeting in its zoning session last week, turned down a request to rezone six lots along Strawberry Plains Pike despite the developer reducing the number of proposed dwellings there from five to two per acre.

Four residents, Andrea Adkins, Catherine Adkins, Donald Mead and Jamie Clark, spoke against the zoning request, which passed the planning commission in a 7-3 vote. Benjamin Mullins spoke for Joe Davis, who had requested the zoning change from agriculture to planned residential.

The opponents spoke about the geology of the 13-acre property, which contains wetlands, two streams, slopes and possible sinkholes. There

was also a cemetery near the site that neighbors thought might be disturbed.

Mullins agreed there are environmental restraints on the six plots in the request, but said that is why clustering the houses would work. He amended the request asking for two houses per acre on the property located about a quarter mile from Carter Elementary, and promised the developer would add sidewalks inside the property.

When asked if the project would interfere with the local water table, Mullins said the water and sewer are available, and the development would not harm local wells.

At-large Commissioner Justin Cofer said he had been getting texts and phone calls about the project and had heard lots of promises but has seen no

development plans. He added he would “side with the community.”

Chairwoman Terry Hill reminded the meeting that the zoning change had passed the planning commission with an approval of 5 per acre and concessions were made by the developer.

District 8 Commissioner Adam Thompson noted the project had been postponed several times and Mullins had attended community meetings with the neighbors, but added, “There’s more questions than answers.” He called the community “a unique area with very rural roots.”

Thompson said he felt the development was not appropriate and an “intensive development.” He moved to deny the request, and District 9’s Andy Fox seconded the motion.

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Publisher's Positions



By Steve Hunley,
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87% Of Dems' Political Contributions Come From Outside Tennessee

Perhaps the hardest-fought legislative race in Knox County is between state Representative Elaine Davis and challenger Bryan Goldberg. This is the second time the two have raced one another on the ballot; Goldberg ran against Davis in 2024 and lost 16,013 to 18,611. Davis won 53.75% to 46.25% for her opponent. It appears Goldberg is being heavily financed not

only from outside Knox County but from outside of Tennessee. One review of the contributions made to Goldberg's campaign indicates approximately 13% had Tennessee addresses; almost 87% of contributions had addresses outside Tennessee. Only Knox Countians can vote in the contest between Elaine Davis and Bryan Goldberg, yet most of the Democrat candidate's financing appears to be coming from out of state. It is vitally important that voters know who is financing candidates, and it is imperative that Tennessee remains Tennessee.

Bait And Switch Democrats Are Hypocrites

For those people who are either feeble-minded or in denial that the Democrat-Socialists don't engage in weaponizing the government into lawfare against their opponents, they need to review the recent statement of U.S. Senator Elissa Slotkin of Michigan. Slotkin

said the quiet part out loud. Slotkin, like Abigail Spanberger of Virginia, was elected as a supposed "moderate." There is no such creature as a "moderate" Democrat; there are only those who do not publicly align themselves as Democrat-Socialists. A good example would be Abdul El-Sayed, who campaigns with caviar-Communist and bitter antisemite Hasan Piker and AOC, who happily admits she is a socialist. Clichés are clichés for a reason, and the old saying, "Birds of a feather flock together," remains true. The only old-time liberal Democrat left in Congress seems to be John Fetterman of Pennsylvania, and we all know how popular he is inside his own party.

Slotkin worked as a CIA analyst under John Brennan, who admitted his first presidential vote was for Communist Party candidate Gus Hall. Speaking before a gathering of students at the University of Chicago, Slotkin acknowledged how she intended to proceed should

the Democrats take control of the Senate this year. Slotkin frankly admitted she wants to unleash a horde of investigators on those serving in the Trump administration to deter young people from working for Trump, and presumably any other Republican administration.

"The people around Donald Trump ... have no immunity the way the president does ... So you go after the people who do his bidding," Slotkin told the students during a live podcast.

"I want to look at these signature cases and not just focus on the president, but on the people who enabled him," Slotkin said.

"I want young people coming out of school to say, 'Should I go work for the Trump administration? Like that sounds fun, I might get an opportunity.'

"I want them to be like, 'Lord, that might be buying myself a ton of problems that I don't want, and so let me avoid participating in that.'"

"I want that deterrence message," Slotkin stated.

What Slotkin is saying openly is that youngsters who want to work in a Republican administration should be targeted for persecution. The idea that any public official should say out loud that young people wanting to go into public service should be targeted and persecuted is not only un-American but also thoroughly authoritarian. That is a real threat to democracy, and anyone who doesn't recognize it clearly doesn't know what democracy is. To "deter" young people from serving their country, irrespective of their political party, should be unspeakable in a republic and a democracy. Persecuting one's political enemies is just a hop, skip and a jump from silencing any voice of dissent, which is exactly what the Democrat-Socialists want. Wait and watch how many "moderate" Democrats condemn Slotkin for her vile un-American comments. It will almost certainly be little or none because deep in their hearts they don't disagree with her premise.

Like so many of her peers, Slotkin always claims she is "defending democracy" as she spews authoritarian means of stifling the opposition, just as Hitler did, just as Mao did, just as Stalin did. Just as every tyrant on the face of the earth has done since the beginning of time.

Elissa Slotkin is not as all-American as apple pie; in fact, she is as American apparently as borscht.

Joe Biden weaponized the government to pursue political opponents during his term of office and set a precedent by pardoning Anthony Fauci, his own son, and then just about every member of his family. At least in this one instance, Biden has been a trailblazer for those who succeed him.

Evidently, every future president of the United States is going to have to pardon himself, every family member, and every employee of the federal government to protect them from political prosecutions and persecutions.

Strong turnout reported for first week of early voting

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Monday, March 22, 2027, is the first day for candidates to pick up petitions for mayor and city council. All three at-large seats will be on the ballot along with District 5 and the office of city judge.

Strawberry Plains development rejected

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The commission voted 7-4 to deny the rezoning, with Hill, Damon Rawls, Courtney Durrett and Garrett Holt voting to approve the rezoning request.

Rezoning requests for two large housing developments were on the agenda, but a request for 12 units per acre for Zero Byington Beaver Ridge

Road was withdrawn after being deferred since August.

A request for five units per acre and rezoning from agricultural to planned residential was deferred until November for lots on Heiskell Road and Granville Conner Road. The planning commission had recommended three per acre. District 7 Commissioner Barry

Beeler noted potential overcrowding at Powell Elementary. District 5 Commissioner Angela Russell offered a substitute motion to postpone the request until next month so the developer and neighbors can meet.

The commission approved a change from agricultural to low-density residential for Zero

Conner Road and changed 339 Fox Road from agricultural to office, medical and related services. The commission voted to change the name of Lobetti Road to Lobetti Ridge Lane on a request from Knox 911 Director Brad Anders in the effort to make it easier for responders to locate an incident.

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New commissioners introduced to Knox 911

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Knox County Emergency Communications District Director Brad Anders went into detail last week when explaining the functions of Knox 911 to Knox County Commission members. Several new commissioners joined the session at the 605 Bernard Avenue headquarters as Anders began with the system's history.

Anders said that in 1986, the city and county consolidated its emergency response services and received its first 911 call on January 1st of that year. In 2003, the service moved to the Bernard Avenue location and now serves six districts and was the first 911 service in the state to be fully accredited.

He explained that Knox 911 is a subdivision of the state and affiliated with the county. The Knox County Mayor nominates its board members. He said that currently only



PHOTO BY MIKE STEELY

Knox 911 Director Brad Anders explained the functions of the facility, its history, and what plans are for the future during a meeting with Knox County Commissioners last week.

three to four percent of the emergency calls come by "copper line," meaning home landlines.

Anders said the system employs 44 call processors, 66 dispatchers and 17 in administration. He

said that funding comes from a \$1.50 fee on all phones and from partnering agencies. The

system handles dispatch for EMS, fire and rescue services, the city police

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Fort Sanders and the Bijou Theatre Part Two

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Rebel sniper kills Sanders

On October 23, 1863, Col. William Sanders was promoted to brigadier general, and would shortly play a vital role in assisting General Ambrose Burnside and the defense of Knoxville. Less than three weeks later, the Union occupied Knoxville after forcing out Rebels who for two years had controlled the city and, from there, East Tennessee.

Sanders was ordered by Burnside to dismount his cavalry and hold a hillside against attacking Rebels so fortifications at several points could be completed. General Sanders stationed his remaining cavalrymen, now only about a thousand strong because of

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Office of Housing Stability seeks additional warming center partners ahead of winter

The Knoxville-Knox County Office of Housing Stability (OHS) is seeking one to two additional churches to serve as overnight warming centers during the upcoming 2026-27 winter season.

Following a devastating fire at North Knox Baptist Church, the congregation is no longer able to serve as a warming center as previously planned. OHS extends its heartfelt support to the North Knox Baptist congregation during this difficult time and remains grateful for

its willingness to serve neighbors in need.

Despite this setback, the community's winter response continues to grow. St. James Episcopal Church will join the warming center network this season, alongside returning partners Church Street United Methodist Church, Cokesbury United Methodist Church and Eternal Life Harvest Center (ELHC). ELHC's Western Avenue location has an expanded capacity, as its former Martin Luther King, Jr. Avenue

location was sold.

OHS is inviting additional congregations and community organizations to explore joining this life-saving effort.

Ideal locations are close to or along public transportation routes and have a large multi-purpose room that can be dedicated to overnight warming center operations.

OHS and community partners provide training, security, operational guidance and connections to a broader

network of community partners to help warming centers prepare and operate safely.

Warming centers provide temporary overnight shelter when forecasts call for extremely low temperatures during December, January and February. These volunteer-supported sites are part of a layered winter shelter response that includes year-round emergency shelter, seasonal shelter and additional overnight capacity during dangerously cold

weather.

For churches, hosting a warming center offers a meaningful opportunity to extend their ministry beyond their walls and serve some of the community's most vulnerable neighbors.

Other nonprofits, businesses and community organizations with suitable facilities are also encouraged to explore participation.

Organizations do not have to undertake this work alone. Partnerships between congregations,

volunteer groups and community organizations can help share the responsibilities of operating a warming center.

Churches, nonprofits, businesses and other organizations interested in exploring a warming center partnership are encouraged to watch this short video, visit knoxtnhousing.org/warming-centers.html, or contact Katie McIlwain, Senior Manager of Strategic Partnerships, at katie.mcilwain@knoxtnhousing.org.

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It's a hard decision

It's no secret that I work at a golf course part-time. My job is mowing tee boxes, and I begin each working day about 5:30 a.m. It's turned a little too cold for my liking by now, but I'm trying to keep warm on the days I work.

Big things took place at the clubhouse the other evening. A meeting was held to discuss turning the course into a sports complex with a nine-hole course and bunches of soccer fields. By the time the meeting began, seats were filled, and several folks circled the back of the room.

For the most part, the session was one where authorities listened to comments from those in attendance. Several folks were there to express their support for the new development; however, most people in the audience were gray-headed or balding and ready for war. Soccer supporters stated that the growth of the sport was causing problems with available facilities. Some complained about having to travel to a separate destination for their children's practices. Others talked about the big money that a sports complex could bring to Knoxville.

The golfers claimed that taking the course for a development wasn't necessary. The terrible traffic conditions on Schaad Road presented a major drawback. Another man pointed out that the course hosted approximately 150 rounds of golf each day and that its loss would cause the other eight courses in the Knoxville area to absorb close to 1000 rounds. He said that other courses couldn't handle the load and that would lead to many golfers being unable to play rounds.

One man stated he'd worked for the department of recreation for 35 years before retiring. He asserted that at least eight sports sites have been abandoned and could be used to serve soccer. A man who was involved with higher-level soccer teams dared the man to name those places, and the elder individual pulled out a piece of paper and read them. One person suggested developing the site at Victor Ashe Park since a large piece of land is already there and could more easily be developed.

One person who lives in a condominium development located along the 12th hole fairway had several objections. She declared that she didn't want her property values to suffer because of its proximity to a sports complex. She also objected to lighted fields that invaded her privacy and worried about the environmental impact on the land.

Perhaps the best thing that the pro-golf crowd offered dealt with age. As one man said, "Soccer is a sport for the young. A small child might begin playing golf and carry his participation all the way into his elder years. When you take that into account, golf offers much more to its participants than soccer does."

In the end, the development of a sports complex at the golf course site comes down to one group being left out. Officially, more than 40 fields are available for soccer practice, but additional unofficial fields are located throughout the community. Nine public courses are available to Knoxville golfers. Some say it's a case of old versus young. With so many other sites as possible locations, the wise decision seems to be one that might be easier to develop and easier to get to than the golf course. Of course, I am a bit biased. My children played soccer, but I hack away at golf. Most of us who attended the meeting tonight don't have that many years left, so it's possible that the new development can just wait us old codgers out.



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New commissioners introduced to Knox 911

Cont. from page 1

department and the sheriff's department.

He also noted that more than half the 911 calls are non-emergency calls and added that in the future the hopes are to add AI as a technical and teaching aide to possibly respond to those calls. AI could also be used for translating 180 different languages. He added that the state wants to invest in a larger radio system and is already on the six Knox 911 radio towers.

The growing system hopes to add a tower on House Mountain.

This year's Knox 911 agenda calls for new memorandums of understanding with the various local emergency responders, updates for the current facilities, expansions of the employee wellness and mental health facilities and increasing flexibility with technology and high-peak calling times.

He noted the emergency back-up facility is at the Public Safety Center within the former St. Mary's Hospital just off Broadway and East Woodland Avenue. Following the talk, Anders took some of the commissioners on a tour of the call center.

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- Glaucoma
- Diabetic Retinopathy
- Macular Degeneration
- Comprehensive Ophthalmology

Dr. Dahl earned her Doctor of Medicine degree from ETSU's Quillen College of Medicine in Johnson City. She went on to complete her ophthalmology residency at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota.



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Dr. Pace completed his undergraduate degree from Carson-Newman. Then earned his Doctor of Medicine degree from Wake Forest University. He interned at University of Tennessee Medical Center, Knoxville. Afterwards, he completed his Ophthalmology Residency as chief resident at the University of Texas Medical Branch, Galveston, TX.

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The Gentleman From New York

Andrew. L Somers

Pages from the Past



By Ray Hill
rayhill865@gmail.com

Andrew Lawrence Somers has long since been forgotten, but his was an important voice in the U.S. House of Representatives for many years. Somers was first elected to Congress when only 29 years old and stayed there for the rest of his life. The service of Andrew L. Somers coincided with some of the most challenging times ever faced by our country, including the crash of the stock market, the Great Depression, and the Second World War, as well as the coming of the Atomic Age. Somers represented a Brooklyn-based district whose population was mostly Jewish and Catholic. Many of those represented by Congressman Somers had first come to the United States as immigrants. Andrew Somers' voice was one of the loudest in Congress about the need to help the Jewish people escape the long arm of Hitler's Nazi regime and the Holocaust. Inside the House of Representatives, Andrew L. Somers was acknowledged by his peers and colleagues to be an expert in the field of legislation involving monetary issues. President Franklin Roosevelt had appointed Somers as a delegate to the International Monetary Conference in London in recognition of the congressman's knowledge of fiscal policy.

Somers' father, Arthur, was well known and well-liked in Brooklyn where he was the Superintendent of Education. Andrew Somers was born in Brooklyn and lived there his entire life. Those who knew Andrew L. Somers well readily acknowledged he was no extrovert but rather a more scholarly type of person. Colleagues remembered Somers as having been both well-educated and well-read. A kind and tolerant man most of the time, Andrew Somers knew the people he represented well because he had lived among them his entire life. Majority leader John McCormack of Massachusetts remembered "Andy" Somers as a serious man who took his responsibilities as a congressman as a duty and acted accordingly. While not a baby-kisser or backslapper, Andrew Somers was a man of some considerable personal charm with a kindly nature and a powerful intellect. Somers was largely remembered by his fellow congressmen for his helpful nature, always happy to show new members how to get things done or assist them however he could.

Like most of his generation, Somers volunteered for the armed forces to fight during the First World War, where he was initially assigned to the U.S. Naval Flying Corps. Somers was reassigned to the Marine

Corps where he rose to the rank of captain, although only 23 years old. Somers would live to see his son, Arthur, rise to the rank of captain in the Marines as well as see his offspring awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross. Married to Ruth Edna McCormick, who had been a classically trained pianist and singer, the couple had five children together and lived in a nice home at 1328 President Street in Brooklyn, New York.

Political bosses and political machines have always known that returning veterans usually make very good candidates for office ranging from the courthouse to the White House. Somers came to the attention of John H. McCooley, popularly known as "Uncle John," by New York City Democrats. McCooley was a loyal member of New York's famous or infamous, depending upon one's point of view, Tammany Hall and rose to become New York State's Democratic National Committeeman. It was McCooley who engineered Andrew L. Somers' rise in New York City politics. In 1924, Andrew L. Somers became the Democratic nominee to face former Congressman Warren I. Lee, who had first been elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in the 1920 Republican landslide. Lee lost his reelection campaign in 1922, but was trying for another comeback in the 1924 election. Somers won the election at age 29, winning with a plurality of the vote due to a Socialist candidate siphoning off roughly 7.5% of the ballots. Still, Somers polled 3,123 more votes than his Republican opponent to go to Washington, D.C., as a freshman congressman.

Electoral speaking, Andrew L. Somers held a safely Democratic district and his office did all it could to assist constituents. Rarely did Somers ever face tough opposition in either primary or general elections. An exception was the 1930 election, which Somers won once again with a plurality of the vote, but the congressman faced three opponents. Joseph Myerson was the Republican nominee and Norman Thomas, a nationally known figure, ran as the Socialist candidate, while Earl Browder, long-time leader of the American Communist Party, ran as well. Norman Thomas had been the Socialist Party's presidential nominee in 1928, as well as that party's nominee for mayor of New York City in 1929. TIME magazine recorded that when Thomas accepted the Socialist nomination to run for Congress, "orthodox politicians" had been shocked. Designated at the time as New York's Sixth



ACME NEWS PHOTO FROM THE AUTHOR'S PERSONAL COLLECTION.

Congressman Andrew L. Somers of New York traveling in 1946.

Congressional District, Norman Thomas told newsmen, "It represents a cross-section of Greater New York. Yet it represents in Congress one man --- John McCooley, politically the owner of Brooklyn." Thomas denounced Congressman Andrew L. Somers as one of John McCooley's several political puppets. Thomas did not run to win but rather to shine a light on John McCooley and make life at least somewhat uncomfortable for the political boss.

Browder only polled 802 votes but Norman Thomas received an astonishing 21,938 votes, which was 22% of the ballots cast. Myerson won just over 30% and ran almost 17,000 votes behind Andrew Somers, who won with 47%. Never again would Andrew L. Somers face a close reelection campaign.

Holding a safe seat allows an incumbent to attain seniority, and Andrew Somers began climbing the seniority ladder in the House of Representatives. Somers had little influence while Republicans dominated the House until 1931. When Franklin D. Roosevelt ousted Herbert Hoover from the White House in 1932 and brought hefty Democratic majorities to both houses of Congress, Somers grew in influence. Congressman Somers was a vocal and strong supporter of President Roosevelt's New Deal and shepherded FDR's effort to devalue gold through to passage in the House. Somers chaired the House Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures. Somers had been assigned to the Committee on Mines and Mining, which he eventually chaired from 1931 until 1939, a rather curious committee assignment for a representative from the streets of New York City. Somers also served on the House Committee on Public Lands, which he also chaired for a time. Dewey Short, a conservative Republican from the Missouri Ozarks, praised Somers as being a congressman with a

"national point of view," as interested in the problems of rural Americans as he was of those in America's cities.

With a significant Jewish population inside New York's Tenth Congressional District, it is not surprising Andrew Somers was an ardent supporter of the Jewish people and eventually Israel. Congressman Somers was one of the most vocal members of Congress in speaking about the Holocaust and Hitler's systematic murder of millions of Jews. Senator Robert F. Wagner, a stalwart of the New Deal and New York State's US senator, sponsored a bill that would have allowed refugee children into the United States, which Somers fervently supported. Congressman Somers continued to press the Roosevelt administration to create what eventually became the War Refugee Board. Palestine was a British protectorate after the Second World War, and Congressman Somers was keen on the idea of creating the state of Israel. On May 14, 1948, President Harry Truman officially recognized Israel, and Somers was delighted, lauding Truman's decision. Somers said the birth of Israel would provide a home for those who had survived the Holocaust, as well as promoting democracy in the Middle East, most of which were monarchies.

Aside from representing tens of thousands of Jews as their congressman, Somers supposedly had never forgotten a story handed down through his family. His grandmother had immigrated from Ireland and had a small infant who would later become Andrew Somers' father. The young woman and her baby were without means and struggling to live when they became the beneficiaries of the kindness of a Jewish family. Somers was a Catholic.

Congressman Andrew Somers did little to ingratiate himself with the Roosevelt administration

with his insistence upon prodding the State Department and the president to do ever more to help those Jews in Europe. Roosevelt was not only powerful but also highly popular with most Democrats, and it was never easy for a Democratic congressman to challenge a chief executive from his own party. Like Roosevelt, Somers was a liberal Democrat, but while FDR was leading the country through the bloodiest conflict it had ever known, the congressman had no responsibility to run the war. Plainly put, Andrew Somers thought the United States could and should do more to help the Jews. Some went so far as to suggest that President Roosevelt should have ordered that those known locations of concentration camps be bombed to allow the prisoners to flee, but one can easily imagine the death and suffering compounded and what the judgment of history would have been. Ultimately, the United States proved to be instrumental in rescuing more than 200,000 Jews in the final months of the Second World War.

Although not entirely well, Congressman Somers continued to work hard as a member of Congress and even visited the front lines when Israel fought its war for independence in 1948. The congressman was given a two-week tour of the battlefield by Israeli military officials. Somers was in the forefront of Israel's supporters in the House of Representatives, demanding recognition for the Jewish state as well as providing Israel with American foreign aid.

Somers was a candidate for reelection in 1948 and remained popular inside New York's Tenth Congressional District. Somers defeated GOP candidate Arthur Hirsch and Ada B. Jackson, who ran as the nominee of the American Labor Party, which was a force in New York State. Ms. Jackson polled quite nearly 18% of the vote while

Congressman Somers won with a comfortable majority of more than 37,000 votes and tallying just over 56% of the ballots cast.

Although a veteran of the House, Somers lost his temper and screamed "Idiot" at Congressman Arthur Miller, a Nebraska Republican. Speaker Sam Rayburn frowned up at the very idea that the 89 new freshmen Democrats in the House might pick up bad habits from their seniors and asked "the House's Emily Post," Congressman George Dondero, a professorial Republican from Michigan, to provide a fatherly lecture upon proper decorum on the floor of the House of Representatives.

Congressman Somers was recognized by many organizations for his support for Jews and Israel. Somers had been the recipient of the "Free Palestine Award" in 1947 in light of the congressman's "outstanding contributions in Congress to the fight for Hebrew freedom."

Shortly before his passing, Congressman Andrew Somers was part of a committee planning the celebration of the first birthday of Israel with a gigantic rally and event at Madison Square Garden.

It was no secret on Capitol Hill that Andrew L. Somers was an ill man. Congressman Emanuel Celler later recalled, "It was not pleasant to see his pain."

On March 1, 1949, Congressman Andrew L. Somers was rushed to the St. Alban's Naval Hospital in Queens after complaining of pains in his stomach. The congressman's office issued reassuring bulletins saying Somers was "recovering nicely" but would need an additional "two or three weeks" of treatment before he could be released. Andrew Somers never came out of the hospital alive. Somers died on April 6, 1949, of cirrhosis of the liver, according to physicians at the Naval Hospital, along with other "complications," with his wife at his bedside. Andrew L. Somers was only 54 years old.

Newspapers across the country remembered the congressman as the Gentile defender of the Jewish cause.

Congressman Emanuel Celler stood up on the floor of the House to recall and pay tribute to his friend of thirty years. Celler said that while some considered death to be a punishment, for others it was a gift and still others a favor. Due to the illness of Andrew Somers, Celler suggested, "The good Lord wished to end his woe and bestowed upon him the favor of death."

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Fort Sanders and the Bijou Theatre Part Two

Cont. from page 1

losses, along a hill about one-half mile west of Third Street on an earthen fort built and abandoned by the enemy. William Marvel, in his novel "Burnside," wrote that Sanders sent out part of his men to guard the Clinton Road and quickly modified the breastwork on the hill.

There, despite heavy shelling and constant gunfire, Sanders held his men and his position by sheer personal example. He stood upright just behind the rails, where both his men and the enemy could see him directing the battle. Several times he rallied his men, who wanted to retreat to safety toward the city.

Then came a round of fire from two South Carolina Rebel regiments, and Sanders was hit. He fell to the ground, and his men carried him away on a makeshift stretcher, giving up their position to the enemy. Badly wounded, he was carried to the Lamar House, now the Bijou Theatre, where he was treated in the Wedding Room.

Sanders died on November 16 and was quickly buried in a wordless ceremony between battles in the Second Presbyterian Cemetery on Market Street.

Burnside noted later that General Sanders gave his life to save Knoxville from capture, holding off the enemy and maintaining his position longer than was required for the defense works to be completed. He was an authentic Union hero.

The Union fort where Sanders was killed was renamed Fort Sanders, and the neighborhood that grew up around the old fort site has that name today. The body of Col. William P. Sanders was later unearthed and reburied in the National Cemetery in Chattanooga.

The Bijou Theatre, then the Lamar House, was built as an upscale hotel in 1817 and hosted many state and national figures, including President Andrew Jackson. When the Union army captured Knoxville, the large hotel was used as a hospital to treat wounded soldiers.

Converted to a theater and entertainment venue

in 1909, the Bijou presented many national acts, including Will Rogers. It was one of the first theaters to open its doors to whites and Blacks, although the African Americans were restricted to the balcony.

After that, it was used to store cars, sell food, and show second-run movies and adult movies. It is said the second floor was once used as a flophouse and a brothel. Eventually the building was left to deteriorate.

It was almost demolished in 1975 but was saved and placed on the National Register of Historic Places. The theater reopened in 2006 and operates as a non-profit venue for community events such as concerts, shows and comedy acts.

Local lore has the Bijou haunted by Civil War soldiers and General Sanders. The theater, at 803 Gay Street, has much information on the internet at www.KnoxBijou.org.

RAM Seeking Volunteers for Annual Free, 3-day Healthcare Clinic in Knoxville in January

Call for volunteers for pop-up healthcare clinic coming to the Knoxville Expo Center on Jan. 15-17, 2027

Remote Area Medical (RAM®), a leading non-profit provider of pop-up clinics delivering free, quality dental, vision, and medical care to those in need, is seeking volunteer medical, dental and vision professionals and general support staff for its January 15-17 clinic. The three-day clinic is to be held at Knoxville Expo Center, located at 5441 Clinton Highway, Knoxville, TN 37912.

RAM is also in need of general support volunteers to help set up on

Wednesday and Thursday, January 13- 14, and take down on Sunday, January 17. Overnight parking volunteers to greet patients are also needed, and interpreters can volunteer to aid patients through the process, either in the parking lot or during clinic operations.

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They give their all for the team

By Steve Williams

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When he's not in the game, he vocally supports his teammates and is ready to go in when you call upon him. He has never been a Player of the Week or recognized on TV or in the newspaper. Yet, he's one of the first to show up at practice and one of the last to leave after practice or a game. And in victory or defeat, he displays good sportsmanship.

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"Last week, in our upset victory over rival Grace, Beckett blocked an extra point that proved pivotal in the outcome of the game. It was a



Kyden Parker of South-Doyle

tremendous play and a great example of a young man making the most of his opportunity. Beckett brings energy, toughness, and a team-first attitude to our program every day. He may not receive the headlines, but his contributions are significant, and he has earned the respect of his coaches

and teammates. He is incredibly deserving of this recognition."

KYDEN PARKER South-Doyle

The Unsung Hero for South-Doyle
Continue on page 2

HIGH SCHOOL SOCCER

Notes from the Scorecard: Region championship roundup

By Ken Lay

The 2026 postseason has been an exercise in frustration for the Bearden High School girls soccer.

The Lady Bulldogs have managed to survive and advance but the playoffs have been packed with close calls, comeback victories and overtime matches.

But that all changed Thursday night in the Region 2-3A Championship match.

It took less than a minute for Bearden to find the back of the net in a 3-0 victory over District 4-3A rival West High on a chilly night with a packed house at Turner-Allender Field.

The two longtime rivals met on Thursday, Oct. 15 in the District 4-3A title game and the Lady Rebels held the upper hand until the Lady Bulldogs' Landree Horner tied the match in the waning stages of regulation, forcing overtime.

In extra time, Bearden sophomore Leighton Corum scored a pair of markers to lift her side to a 3-1 win and the district tournament title.

Horner made sure that that extra time wouldn't be necessary in the region final.

She tallied in the opening minute of the game last week, giving Bearden's young squad a 1-0 advantage. From there, Bearden would never look back meaning that coach Ryan Radcliffe could enjoy this one a bit more --- at least early.

"That's the frustrating thing about this postseason, we've had to come from behind and we've had to go to overtime," Radcliffe said. "But if you get the result, that's all that matters."

The Lady Bulldogs (15-3-1) would add to its advantage in the 11th minute when Madi Bowlin buried

Continue on page 5

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL WEEK 10

Meigs County spoils Roadrunners' homecoming, claims region championship

By Ken Lay

Austin-East High School had a big homecoming celebration before its Region 2-3A showdown against 2026 heavyweight Meigs County Friday night.

The festivities began in the late afternoon with a parade, and the celebration continued until kickoff against the Tigers, who entered the contest without a loss this season.

And the contest was tightly contested early but Meigs would eventually pull away for a 34-14 victory at Sam Anderson Field.

The Tigers (9-0 overall, 4-0 in the region) would throw a damper on the Roadrunners' homecoming party and wrap up the region title with the win.

Meigs never trailed in the

contest as it scored on its first possession when running back Kaiden Brewster broke loose for a 77-yard touchdown scamper. The Tigers' two-point conversion attempt failed, and the score remained 6-0.

The Roadrunners (6-3, 2-2), however, would answer a short time later when running back Turk Towns scored on a short 3-yard touchdown plunge, to knot the contest, 6-6. The score was set up when Jeffrey Minor recovered a Meigs County fumble deep in Tigers' territory after a sack.

Meigs County would regain the lead in the second stanza when Ethan Shaver had a 3-yard scoring run, making the score, 13-6, and giving the Tigers the advantage that they enjoyed at halftime.

Meigs County manufactured all

of its offense on the ground as it amassed 330 rushing yards. The Tigers aerial attack was non-existent as the visitors attempted to throw just one pass, which was an incomplection.

Austin-East, conversely, employed a balanced offensive attack. The Roadrunners used two quarterbacks in the contest and totaled 243 passing yards. Nymire Jackson finished 11-for-15 for 145 yards and one touchdown, while Landon Lightfoot was 10-for-23 for 103 yards.

Towns was the Roadrunners' leading rusher as he had six carries for 47 yards and a touchdown. Sophomore Keyvon Booker finished with 10 carries for 42 yards. Lightfoot toted the ball five times for 21 yards, while Jackson finished with 17 yards on three

rushing attempts.

Jackson was also the Roadrunners' leader in receiving yards, with 77 on four receptions. Dikye is "DK" Towns hauled in five catches for 72 yards. He also had a touchdown reception that closed out the scoring in the contest.

Meigs County took control of the game in the third quarter. There, the Tigers scored 21 unanswered points to open a 34-6 advantage.

Brewster had a pair of TDs in the frame. He scored from five yards out, making the score 20-7. He would later add a 5-yard scamper before Shaver closed the scoring in the stanza with a 25-yard scamper of his own.

Brewster finished with 194 rushing yards and three

touchdowns, while Shaver racked up 118 yards and scored two rushing touchdowns.

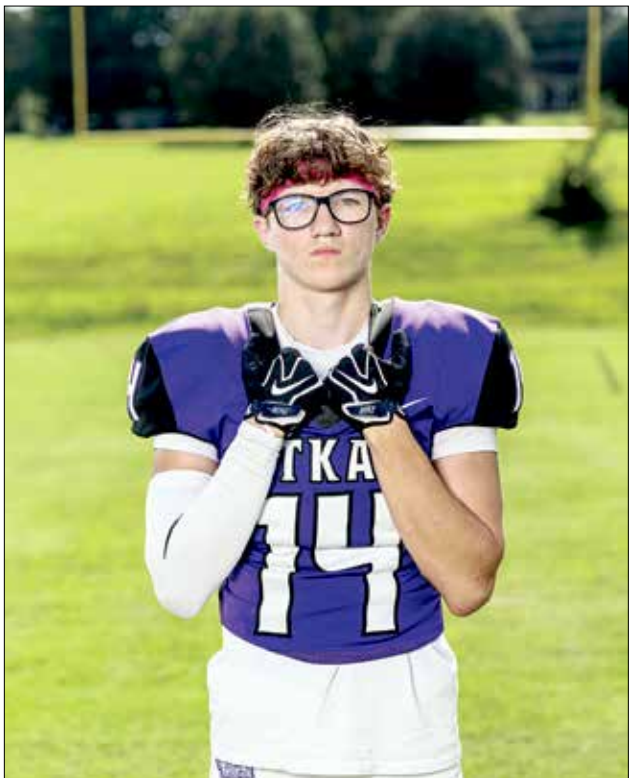
The Roadrunners added a touchdown in the fourth quarter when Jackson connected with DK Towns on a 25-yard scoring strike. Austin-East would add the ensuing two-point conversion.

Next up for the Roadrunners: A-E will end the regular season at home this week when it hosts McMinn Central to close out a three-game homestand. The Chargers (5-4, 1-3) are coming off a 48-20 home loss to Sweetwater.

The Roadrunners, who went 1-9 in 2025, are in the midst of their best season since 2019, when they finished 9-4 and reached the state quarterfinals.



IT'S TIME TO RECOGNIZE UNSUNG HEROES



Left to right: Logan Morton of Grace Christian Academy, Brett Johnson of Hardin Valley and The King's Academy's Cosmin Susara.

They give their all for the team

Continued from page 1

is junior offensive and defensive lineman Kyden Parker, said Coach Gibson.

“He is a back up on both sides of the ball for us and is always one of the first players in the door. Kyden consistently displays high sportsmanship and always cheers on his teammates from the sideline when he isn't in on the action.”

LOGAN MORTON

Grace Christian

“Logan Morton is a senior linebacker that is prepared each week to help the team,” said GCA Head Coach Justin Price. “He is a reflection of our team standard of being ALL IN.”

LEVI JOHNSON

Bearden

“Levi Johnson is always ready,” said Bearden Head Coach Brad Taylor. “The sophomore wide receiver and defensive back never misses. He always works hard with a positive attitude. He plays important roles on special teams and plays with great effort. He's also a good student with a 4.3 GPA.”



Webbs School's Henry Jenkins with his parents Jennifer and Arthur.

BRETT JOHNSON

Hardin Valley

Brett Johnson, a senior linebacker/offensive lineman and special teams captain, “is one of the most dependable athletes I've had the opportunity to coach in my career,” said Head Coach Tyler Wynn. “He has a team first attitude and is

always willing to do whatever is needed. He exemplifies what this program stands for. He's resilient, invested, selfless, and gives tremendous effort. He's our first offensive lineman reserve and our first linebacker off the bench. He's the type of guy who has the respect of everyone in the locker room. He will excel in whatever he chooses to do in the future.”

COSMIN SUSARA

The King's Academy

“Cosmin Susara, a junior WR/DB, is not only a hard worker in practice, but he is frequently out on the field after practice, on weekends and even on the tennis courts at night so he can improve his skills under the lights,” said TKA Head Coach Stephen Alexander.

“He always brings positive energy to the team, regardless of what his role in the game plan is. He is the type of kid to ask the coaches to get work at positions that might be outside of his primary focus because he knows it will help the team. And when it is time to step up, he makes plays for the team.”

HENRY JENKINS

Webb School

“I would love to recognize Henry Jenkins, who is our manager,” said Webb coach George Quarles.

“He is a senior who works as hard as anyone on our team. He works out with the players all summer. If everyone on our team worked as hard as Henry, we would win a lot more games.”

Can Tennessee Tame Kentucky?

By Mark Nagi

For years ... well, for decades, the Tennessee/Kentucky football rivalry hasn't been much of a rivalry.

Since 1985, Tennessee and Kentucky have played 41 times, and the Vols have won 38 of those games. That includes a 26-year winning streak in this annual matchup.

Losses to Kentucky are so rare that they typically lead to the firing of Tennessee's football coach. The 10-7 loss in

Lexington in 2011 should have meant Derek Dooley would be dismissed before the bus even left the stadium, but new Tennessee AD Dave Hart didn't feel like he had enough time on campus to make that move. Dooley would be fired late in the 2012 season.

Butch Jones's 29-26 loss to Kentucky in October 2017 was a precursor to his firing a couple of weeks later. Jeremy Pruitt's 34-7 loss to Kentucky during the 2020 Covid season was so ugly

it made the decision to can him early in 2021 once NCAA violations became known that much easier.

Tennessee doesn't lose to Kentucky. That's the belief in the UT football complex, and absolutely among the Tennessee fan base. Jose Heupel is 5-0 against Kentucky.

But next Saturday, November 7, a different Kentucky team is coming to Neyland Stadium. As of the writing of this article, the Cats were 6-1.

This isn't your father's

Kentucky team.

In the modern era of college football, a team can turn over their roster immediately. There are no more honeymoon periods, expecting a team to gradually improve over time.

And that's where Will Stein steps in. Stein, at 37 years old, is one of the youngest head coaches in the sport and has done an incredible job with this program. It's only his first season at UK, but he's already shown gumption by going for two and the win in overtime twice... in back-to-back weeks no less. Wins at South Carolina and at home against LSU opened a lot of eyes nationally. He also led Kentucky to a win at Oklahoma.

Stein might be young, but he's already been a fixture

on the offensive coaching staffs at Louisville, Texas, UTSA, and Oregon. Stein found a hidden gem at QB, getting Kenny Minchey to transfer to Kentucky after three years as a backup at Notre Dame. Through his first seven games, Minchey threw for 1552 yards, 13 scores, and only 1 interception, while completing 68.4% of his passes.

He was a championship-winning QB at Trinity High School in Louisville. His Dad played at Kentucky, and he wanted to follow in those footsteps. But they never gave him a look, so he walked on at Louisville. He might have played college football at Louisville, but he is now Big Blue's favorite son.

Kentucky football is on an upward trajectory under Stein. Now, not only

can they seriously damage Tennessee's playoff hopes, but the Cats can also bolster their own.

Times change. Empires rise and fall. If Indiana can come out of nowhere and win a national championship, any team in a Power 4 conference in college football can. All it takes is a good coach, some smart decisions on how to build your roster, and a little luck along the way. Curt Cignetti built Indiana up immediately. Will Stein is aiming to do the same thing at Kentucky.

So is this indeed a new Kentucky? The Vols will have had two weeks to prepare to prove that this is the same old Kentucky.

A win over the Cats would usher in basketball season in Lexington. A win for the Cats would push that off perhaps until January.



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Where's Georgia?

Georgia is off the Vols' football schedule this season for the first time since 1991, but memories from the series still linger from across the years.

For perspective, fans can go back to Nov. 1, 1969, the first time the Vols had been to Athens since 1936. The trip over the Smoky Mountains was the "direct route," an often-harrowing trip through Tennessee, North Carolina, and Georgia that was never anybody's favorite.

The Vols were riding high going in, No. 3 in the nation (AP). The game had everyone in Big Orange Country concerned. The team had defeated Alabama two weeks earlier in Birmingham and had an open date the next week. No one knew exactly what was in store for the Vols, but they proved ready for the contest.

The team's flight to Athens could have been a portent, something to further worry an often-skittish fan base.

A major "crisis" occurred when the Vols had flown to Commerce, Ga., just outside Athens, on the afternoon of October 31. Sandy Treadwell wrote what happened in Sports Illustrated's issue of November 10, 1969.

"One of the two engines of the Martin 404 Southern Airways charter that was to carry the Volunteer

defense to Athens for the critical game with Georgia lost power on its trip down the runway, and the plane had to return to the shop. The delay caused the defensive unit to miss practice."

The game was a memorable one. The Vols, adorned in their orange jerseys against Georgia's red, won 17-3 on a rainy afternoon at Sanford Stadium. The Vols survived an early fumble that yielded a Bulldog field goal, cranked up the ground game, and earned a satisfying victory.

The Georgia game proved to be Doug Dickey's final "Signature Win" as he left for Gainesville, Fla., in early January 1970 and the apparently greener pastures. The impact of that game will hopefully be discussed in some detail in Dickey's forthcoming memoir from U.T. Press. The Vols won the SEC that season, even with an apparently crushing 38-0 loss to Ole Miss on Nov. 15 and a loss to Florida in the Gator Bowl on Dec. 29.

This 1969 group of starters was an interesting blend of experience and youth, numbering 10 seniors, 9 juniors, and 5 sophomores.

The Vols up front, center Mike Bevens, guards Chip Kell and Don Denbo, tackles Steve Robinson and Joe Balthrop, joined by tight end Ken DeLong, dominated the game.

Quarterback Bobby Scott was in his first year as a starter, amassing a 20-3 record in his two years under center. Curt

Watson ran for a school-record 197 yards in that game, with Don McLeary adding 100.

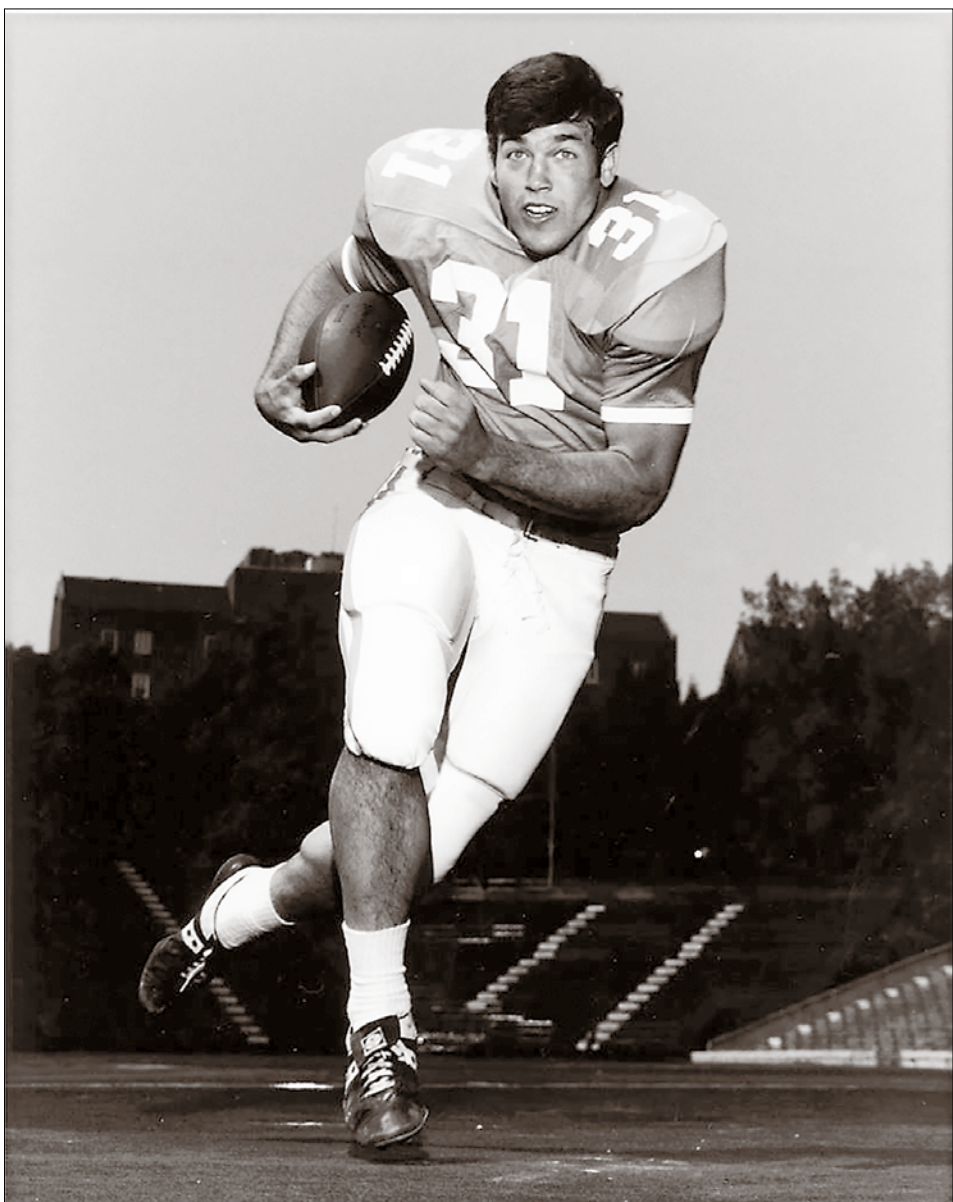
Vol broadcaster John Ward nicknamed Watson the "Crossville Comet." McLeary didn't have a nickname, but he and Watson were a solid 1-2 punch.

All-American linebackers Steve Kiner, Jack "Hacksaw" Reynolds, and Jackie Walker led the defensive effort. During their careers, each was an All-American selection – Kiner in 1968-69, Reynolds in 1969, and Walker in 1970-71.

Vic Dingus and James Woody were the ends, Frank Yanossy and Steve Carroll were the tackles, and Mike Jones, Tim Priest, Bobby Majors, and team captain Bill Young comprised the secondary.

Lester McClain and Gary Kreis were the wide receivers. McClain had made his varsity debut as the school's first African-American player against Georgia in 1968. Kreis had made a controversial touchdown catch against the Bulldogs a year earlier in Knoxville that helped the Vols steal a 17-17 tie. He had been warned by letter from at least one Georgia supporter not to show up for the 1969 game.

Herman Weaver was the punter and George Hunt the placekicker. ABC's Don Meredith nicknamed Weaver "Thunderfoot" for the height of his punts. Hunt was named the placekicker on the SEC's Quarter Century All-Star Team, covering 1950-1974.



Fullback Curt Watson is shown in this publicity photograph from a late 1960s University of Tennessee pre-season "Picture Day."

The 1969 Georgia game set the stage for a heated rivalry that saw each team have a dominant winning streak. Tennessee had an 8-game streak from 1992 to 1999 and Georgia a 9-game win streak from 2017 through 2025.

One thing was certain in analyzing the history of the series to date. Getting to Athens pre-game and out of Athens post-game has proven problematic.

As Georgia began appearing on Vol schedules

on a regular basis, the team would fly to Atlanta via Delta charter, practice at a local high school field, and then make their way to the hotel away from the frenzied atmosphere in Athens.

After the game, team buses would fight the post-game traffic along with everybody else down the back roads to I-20 and on to the airport.

In 2004, the Vols bused to Atlanta, again practicing at a high school field, and

the next day, making the trek to the stadium, winning 19-14.

Then came a welcome sight. There were three commuter-type jets waiting at the Athens airport for the trip home.

That quickened the process of getting home and was a marked improvement.

Winning at Georgia added to the ambience surrounding that particular game and to the overall series.

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HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL WEEK 10

West takes advantage of Beavers' early hospitality

By Steve Williams

Statistically, it was one of the weirdest games ever. Karns had the ball for 50 plays to West's 18 in the first half, but West led 21-0 at halftime Friday night. Things evened out after intermission, but the madness of the start wouldn't go away. The Rebels won 28-14 to clinch a playoff berth in Region 2-5A, but the host Beavers saw their playoff hopes go over the dam at a chilly R.T. Everette Sports Complex. West is now 4-2 in the region and 5-4 overall and will end the regular season this week with a game at Powell (6-0 and 8-1). Karns slipped to 2-4 in the region and 3-6 overall and will finish with a tough home game against Central (5-1 and 8-1). Senior wide receiver Silas Monroe led the way

for the Navy Blue and Red in the first half, starting with an 80-yard scoop-and-score on a blocked field goal after Karns had driven to the West 7-yard line. Addison Cline's PAT made it 7-0 with 4:44 on the first-quarter clock. Midway through the first half, Monroe caught a 55-yard touchdown pass from senior quarterback Jack Harrison. Cline again split the uprights, and it was 14-0. The Beavers went on another long drive and started to kick a field goal, but took a timeout with 2:15 left in the half and decided to go for six. Quarterback Ben Styles' pass was completed, but the receiver was ruled out of bounds. Everything seemed to be going West's way as sophomore Aiden Neal caught a 51-yard TD pass just

before time ran out, giving the Rebels a 21-0 halftime lead. West had to punt on its first possession in the third quarter and Karns took advantage of it. Styles passed to Jonas Zimmerman for 11 yards, and DeMarcus Jones totaled 40 yards on four carries to get the Beavers in the end zone. He scored on a 14-yard run up the middle. Jett's point-after made it 21-7. A 4-yard tackle for loss by DK Smith stirred the Karns fans and gave them hope for a comeback. The Rebels obliged and went four-and-out. Early in the fourth quarter, Harrison was sacked for a 7-yard loss, and Colston Colquitt just got his punt off under pressure. A 17-yard gain by Jones put the Beavers in scoring

position at the 19, but on the next play West defensive back Brayden Livingston intercepted Styles' pass when the ball popped into his hands. After another punt, Styles got his passing game going and completed four passes, including a 15-yarder for a touchdown that pulled Karns within seven points (21-14) with 3:20 to go. But West's strong Wytier Newman, a 5-10, 215-pound running back, took over and ran six straight plays for a total of 64 yards. His last run was an 8-yarder over the left side of the line for the game-clinching TD run with less than a minute remaining. Newman's final play was on the defensive side of the line as he had an 8-yard sack as the final seconds ticked off. "There at the end, when

we needed to, we put a drive together," said West Head Coach Barron Chandler. "Obviously, we were running the clock and just hanging onto the football and getting first downs. We ended up finishing it off, taking it down there and scoring to get ahead by two scores." **LEE WARREN,** Karns' head coach, was not at the game Friday night due to a TSSAA penalty for a "Level 3 recruiting violation," said Karns Athletic Director Hunter Fendley after the game. Assistant Coach Al Feldelum, who is in his third season at Karns, filled in for Warren. "Coach Warren is hopefully going to be back, and that's what we told the kids tonight."

2026 Prep Football WEEK ELEVEN

Games kick off at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.
Thursday, October 29
Halls at Clinton
Central at Karns
West at Powell
Friday, October 30
TKA at Southlake, NC
McMinn Central at A-E
Webb at Boyd Buchanan
Bearden at Bradley Central
Lakeway Christian at CAK
Chatt Grace at CCS (2:30)
Cleveland at Farragut
Seymour at Grainger
Ooltewah at Hardin Valley
Gibbs at Carter
Baylor at Catholic
Grace at Notre Dame
Fulton at South-Doyle

Week Ten Scores

CCS 46, Providence Christn 20
CPA 14, Catholic 13
Central 49, William Blount 7
Anderson Co. 35, S-D 7
Meigs Co. 34, Austin-East 14
Boyd Buchanan 36, CAK 35
Webb 21, Chatt Christian 14
Cleveland 14, Hardin Valley 10
Dobyns Bennett 28, Bearden 7
Gibbs 21, Heritage 14
West 28, Karns 14
Alcoa 52, Carter 14
Fulton 58, Union Co. 12
Grace 31, Lakeway Christn 13
Oak Ridge 35, Farragut 14
Powell 49, Clinton 31
Seymour 21, Elizabethton 16
Halls 63, Campbell Co. 7

A GLANCE BACK AND A LOOK AHEAD

HVA defense shines in tough loss

By Steve Williams

Hardin Valley Academy's football team has had one of its finest seasons in a long time, but came up short at Cleveland Friday night, falling 14-10 in a key Region 2-6A game. The Hawks appear to still have a chance of getting into the playoffs if Maryville defeats Oak Ridge this week.

"Cleveland did a good job of making plays down the stretch and was able to shut us down offensively most of the game," said HVA Head Coach Tyler Wynn. "Defensively, I felt like our guys played really well. You're not going to win many down the stretch if you can't put more than 10 points on the board. "We took the lead in the 4th quarter but gave up a long kickoff return followed by a personal foul to give up great field position and we weren't able to hold them out.

"I was proud of how well we played defensively, but we left too many points on the board and weren't able to finish like I wish we would have." The Hawks (3-3 in region play and 6-3 overall) will host Ooltewah in their final regular season game Friday night.

PREPS OF THE PAST

Ten years ago
Oct. 27, 2016
Carter (3-7) earned a playoff berth in Region 2-4A with a 56-28 win over Anderson County (3-7). Carter freshman Dakota Fawver completed 9 of 17 passes for 158 yards and rushed for 57 yards for Coach Jeff McMillan's Hornets. Carter

Dunlap rushed for 86 yards and two TDs. Fawver also had two TD runs for 15 and 8 yards. Jake Hurst added a 6-yard TD run and Ben Flowers scored from the 1.

Twenty years ago
Oct. 27, 2006
Locked in a 6-6 battle with Rutledge late in the third quarter, Carter receiver

Landry Stanton was forced to shift to quarterback after starter Mark Allen Bounds became ill at halftime and reportedly was taken away in an ambulance. Stanton's thoughts were on scoring the go-ahead TD, but he was also thinking about the health of his good friend. He wasted little time putting the Hornets ahead, passing

17 yards to Zach Gorman to finish a 62-yard drive. Bounds ran four yards for the other TD with 55 seconds left. The score stood at 13-6 in a rain-soaked victory at Carter. Coach Heath Woods' Hornets (9-1 and 6-0) were headed to the Region 1-3A playoffs and would host Kingston the next week.



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WEEK 10 HEADLINERS

Seymour downs
Elizabethton
GCA topples Lakeway

WEEK 11 HEADLINERS

Baylor vs. Catholic at
Covenant Health Park
Lakeway at CAK
West at Powell

SONNY MOORE'S COMPUTER RATINGS

(Top 10 local teams thru
Oct. 19 games)
1-GCA 127.88 (15th in
state)
2-CAK 126.10
3-Hardin Valley 124.73
4-Central 121.66
5-Catholic 116.02
6-Gibbs 115.04
7-Powell 108.28
8-Halls 107.27
9-Seymour 105.91
10-West 98.77

Notes from the Scorecard: Region championship roundup

Cont. from page 1

a shot past Lady Rebels' goalkeeper Brynn Bush to close out the scoring in the opening half.

West (10-6-2) would threaten after halftime but Bearden netminder Fallyn Baker, a freshman, and the Lady Bulldogs' defense would keep the Lady Rebels at bay and off the scoreboard.

Bearden has one of its youngest teams in recent memory and Radcliffe noted that his side's youth was a factor after halftime. "We have a young team and I think, in the second half, you saw our youth, and that was frustrating because I wanted to see them come out and play well in the second half," he said. "But it's good to see our young players come in and learn about the tradition we have.

"It's going to be them that carry the program after our seniors leave." Horner scored her second goal of the game to give the Lady Bulldogs

a 3-0 lead in the 74th minute. Bearden outshot the Lady Rebels, 17-14. Bearden had 12 shots land on goal, while West had six shots on frame.

Baker posted a clean sheet in Bearden's third match against West this season. The Lady Rebels defeated the Lady Bulldogs in their regular-season tilt and Bearden won the overtime thriller in the district finals.

In the Region 2-3A semifinals on Tuesday, Bearden outlasted Central, 4-2, while West edged Powell, 2-1.

Both teams advanced to Saturday's state sectional round as Bearden hosted Morristown West and the Lady Rebels traveled to Johnson City to face Science Hill. Results were not available at press time.

In Region 2-2A: Anderson County defeated Gibbs, 2-1, in Clinton in the title match.

The Lady Mavericks were



Bearden High School's girls soccer team celebrates its region tournament championship. The Lady Bulldogs won the title with a 3-0 victory over rival West High Thursday night at Turner-Allender Field. Photo submitted.

set to host Elizabethton, while Gibbs was set to travel to Greeneville for

Saturday's sectionals. Results were not available at press time.

In Tuesday's regional semifinals, the Lady Eagles defeated Seymour,

2-1, and Anderson County blanked Carter, 9-0.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

COURT NOTICES NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: JULIA SHEA SIMS
IN RE: LOVEWELL PROPERTIES, LLC, Plaintiff
v.
JULIA SHEA SIMS, Defendant
DOCKET NO. 213046-1
IN THE CHANCERY COURT FOR KNOX COUNTY, TENNESSEE
In this Cause, it appearing from the Complaint filed with Knox County Chancery Court, Case No. 213046-1, that the defendant, JULIA SHEA SIMS, a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon JULIA SHEA SIMS, it is ordered that said defendant, JULIA SHEA SIMS, file an answer with the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court at Knoxville, Tennessee, and with Christopher Beverly, an Attorney whose address is 49 Music Sq., Suite 500, Nashville, Tennessee 37203, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication of this Notice, or a judgement by default will be taken against you and the cause will be set for hearing Ex-Parte before Chancellor John F. Weaver at the Knox County Chancery Court, Division I, 400 Main Street, Knoxville, Tennessee 37902. This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks. This the 18th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

Honorable John F. Weaver
Chancellor
Houston S. Havasy
Clerk and Master

NON-RESIDENT NOTICE

TO: JAMES THOMAS GREEN, III
IN RE: MINOR CHILD, C.G., DOB 09/07/2022
BY: MADISON DUNN, Petitioner
vs.
JAMES THOMAS GREEN, III, Respondent
NO. CE-33643
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR BLOUNT COUNTY, TENNESSEE
In this cause, it appearing from the Petition which is sworn to, that the Respondent JAMES THOMAS GREEN, III, is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee, or whose whereabouts cannot be ascertained upon diligent search and inquiry, so that the ordinary process of law cannot be served upon JAMES THOMAS GREEN, III. It is therefore ORDERED that said defendant, JAMES THOMAS GREEN, III, file an Answer in the Circuit Court for Blount County, at Maryville, Tennessee, and with Plaintiff's Attorney, William Gribble, whose address is 550 E. Broadway Avenue, Maryville, TN 37804, within thirty (30) days of the last date of publication, or a Judgment by Default may be entered and the cause set for hearing Ex-Parte as to Respondent.

This notice will be published in The Knoxville Focus for four (4) consecutive weeks.

This 4 day of September, 2026.

Stephen S. Ogle
Clerk and Master
Cherie Branagin
Deputy Clerk

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DOROTHY M. ARNING
DOCKET NUMBER 92933-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 9th day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of DOROTHY M. ARNING, who died June 7, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors

at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 9th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF DOROTHY M. ARNING
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
RANDI PAYNE POOLE
7467 CLAYTON ROAD
ONNA, FL 33865

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF ESSIEAURT BUFFINGTON
DOCKET NUMBER 92933-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 2nd day of October, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of ESSIEAURT BUFFINGTON, who died August 4, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 2nd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF ESSIEAURT BUFFINGTON
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JERMAINE BUFFINGTON
1408 PARKRIDGE DR.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37924

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF MARYLYN S. BULLOCK
DOCKET NUMBER 93050-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 9th day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of MARYLYN S. BULLOCK, who died July 8, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 9th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF MARYLYN S. BULLOCK
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
WILLIAM GLENN BULLOCK, JR.
6704 SHERWOOD DR.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919
JULIA BULLOCK SMITH
2249 WINTER ST.
CHARLOTTE, NC 28205
ELIZABETH BULLOCK TYE
365 ELDEN DR.
ATLANTA, GA 30342

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF OMETA H. BURKHART
DOCKET NUMBER 93216-3
Notice is hereby given that on the 12th day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of OMETA H. BURKHART, who died September 5, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 12th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF OMETA H. BURKHART
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MARVIN W. BURKHART, JR.
8423 BOWMAN HOLLOW RD.
POWELL, TN 37849
JEFFREY Z. DANIEL, ATTORNEY
8303 HEISKELL ROAD
POWELL, TN 37849

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LINDA MARIE CRAMOTTE
DOCKET NUMBER 92926-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 7th day of October, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of LINDA MARIE CRAMOTTE, who died July 8, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 7th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF LINDA MARIE CRAMOTTE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
BENJAMIN JAMES FRYE
6206 RENEE RD.
CORRYTON, TN 37721

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF WILLIAM E. DUNIVANT
DOCKET NUMBER 93094-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of September, 2026, Letters of Administration in respect to the Estate of WILLIAM E. DUNIVANT, who died on March 2, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors

if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 30th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF WILLIAM E. DUNIVANT
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
NORMA S. DUNIVANT
230 VILLAGE COMMONS BLVD., #239
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934
SARAH R. JOHNSON, ATTORNEY
11907 KINGSTON PIKE, STE. 201
KNOXVILLE, TN 37934

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF SARAH VANDEGRIFT ELDRIDGE
DOCKET NUMBER 93234-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of October, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of SARAH VANDEGRIFT ELDRIDGE, who died January 2, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 9 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF SARAH VANDEGRIFT ELDRIDGE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
STEVEN SINCLAIR JOHNSTON
1621 JEFFERSON AVE.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37917
DAVID H. LUHN, ATTORNEY
310 N. FOREST PARK BLVD.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DEBORAH ANN FOSTER
DOCKET NUMBER 93167-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of September, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of DEBORAH ANN FOSTER, who died August 25, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 30th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF DEBORAH ANN FOSTER
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
JEFFREY B. FOSTER
3516 MALONEY ROAD
KNOXVILLE, TN 37920
DAVID H. LUHN, ATTORNEY
310 N. FOREST PARK BLVD.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF KAREN ANN GARLAND
DOCKET NUMBER 93158-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of September, 2026, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of KAREN ANN GARLAND, who died on the 23rd day of July, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 30th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF KAREN ANN GARLAND
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
WILLIAM BRENT GARLAND
4111 WALROCK LANE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37921
NEVA M. FOUST, ATTORNEY
4641 CHAMBLISS AVENUE
KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JOYCE EARLENE GOOSIE
DOCKET NUMBER 93200-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 5th day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JOYCE EARLENE GOOSIE, who died August 15, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 5th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF JOYCE EARLENE GOOSIE
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
CLYDE JOSEPH GOOSIE, JR.
725 GAMBLE DRIVE
HEISKELL, TN 37754
REBECCA BELL JENKINS, ATTORNEY
9724 KINGSTON PIKE, SUITE 202
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF RUTH SANFORD IRICK
DOCKET NUMBER 93236-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of October, 2026, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of RUTH SANFORD IRICK, who died August 31, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first

publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 9 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF RUTH SANFORD IRICK
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
VINCENT IRICK
7216 OAKMEADE ROAD
POWELL, TN 37849
REBECCA BELL JENKINS, ATTORNEY
9724 KINGSTON PIKE, STE. 202
KNOXVILLE, TN 37922

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JATANA SUE KECK
DOCKET NUMBER 92643-1
Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of JATANA SUE KECK, who died February 23, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 9 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF JATANA SUE KECK
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
MICHAEL WAYNE MITCHELL
ADMINISTRATOR CTA
304 KILGORE FARMS CIRCLE
SIMPSONVILLE, SC 29681
CARIN C. BRIO, ATTORNEY
3217 GARDEN DRIVE, SUITE 1
KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LOIS KEMP KEITH
DOCKET NUMBER 92814-2
Notice is hereby given that on the 8th day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LOIS KEMP KEITH, who died July 1, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:
(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or
(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or
(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.
This the 8th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF LOIS KEMP KEITH
PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
LOIS CANNON BROWN
3131 LAY AVE.
KNOXVILLE, TN 37914

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LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LARRY E. LETT DOCKET NUMBER 93039-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of LARRY E. LETT, who died July 31, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 9 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF LARRY E. LETT

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 JEFF D. SHARP, EXECUTOR
 3733 WHITWORTH DR.
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37938

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF BARRY GENE LITTS DOCKET NUMBER 93016-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 2nd day of October, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of BARRY GENE LITTS, who died June 15, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 2nd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF BARRY GENE LITTS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 JOSEPH K. LITTS
 6625 FULLER AVE.
 COCOA, FL 32927

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF BOBBY J. MCNEAL DOCKET NUMBER 93203-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 9th day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of BOBBY J. MCNEAL, who died September 27, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 9th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF BOBBY J. MCNEAL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 JOSEPH "JOEY" L. HACKWORTH
 6608 NORTHBORO ROAD
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF WARREN C. OLIVER DOCKET NUMBER 93221-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 12th day of October, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of WARREN C. OLIVER, who died July 5, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 12th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF WARREN C. OLIVER

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 CHERYL M. OLIVER
 11333 FREELS BEND POINT
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

DAVID H. LUHN, ATTORNEY
 310 N. FOREST PARK BLVD.
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF LESLIE DANIEL QUINTON DOCKET NUMBER 93219-3

Notice is hereby given that on the 9th day of October, 2026, Letters Testamentary in respect of the Estate of LESLIE DANIEL QUINTON, who died July 21, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this Notice to Creditors if the creditor received an actual copy of this Notice to Creditors if the creditor received the copy of the Notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 9th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF LESLIE DANIEL QUINTON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 MICHAEL ARMSTRONG, EXECUTOR
 2423 HIGHLAND DRIVE
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

PATRICK R. MCKENRICK, ATTORNEY
 1019 ORCHID DRIVE
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37912

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF RICHARD EUGENE RUDESILL DOCKET NUMBER 92755-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 2nd day of October, 2026, letters of testamentary in respect of the Estate of RICHARD EUGENE RUDESILL, who died on the 13th day of April, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file

the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 2nd day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF RICHARD EUGENE RUDESILL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 RICHARD M. RUDESILL
 3357 LINE SPRINGS ROAD
 SEVIERVILLE, TN 37862

NEVA M. FOUST, ATTORNEY
 4641 CHAMBLISS AVENUE
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF VALERIE HERLONG THURMAN DOCKET NUMBER 93233-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect to the Estate of VALERIE HERLONG THURMAN, who died November 30, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 9 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF VALERIE HERLONG THURMAN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 ROBERT JASON THURMAN
 6103 TARVER LANE, UNIT J
 CORRYTON, TN 37721

SARAH M. THORNSBERRY, ATTORNEY
 P. O. BOX 1990
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37901

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF BETHANY FAYE VALENTIN DOCKET NUMBER 93172-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of October, 2026, letters of administration in respect of the Estate of BETHANY FAYE VALENTIN, who died August 29, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division for Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 9 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF BETHANY FAYE VALENTIN

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 DAVID LEWIS RUTTAN, ADMINISTRATOR

WILSON S. RITCHIE, ATTORNEY
 606 WEST MAIN STREET, SUITE 200
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37902

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF DORIS K. VINEYARD DOCKET NUMBER 93030-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 30th day of September, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of DORIS K. VINEYARD, who died June 17, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 30th day of SEPTEMBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF DORIS K. VINEYARD

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 GREGORY W. VINEYARD
 5413 MONTCREST RD.
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37918

EDWARD A. COX, JR., ATTORNEY
 1111 N. NORTHSHORE DR., SUITE N-290
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF JANELL RAE CECIL DOCKET NUMBER 92810-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 9 day of October, 2026, letters administration in respect of the Estate of JANELL RAE CECIL, who died March 18, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 9 day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF JANELL RAE CECIL

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 WILLIAM T. CECIL, ADMINISTRATOR
 12807 LONG RIDGE ROAD
 FARRAGUT, TN 37934

COURTNEY L. COX, ATTORNEY
 4931 HOMBERG DRIVE
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF EDITH W. HUTTON DOCKET NUMBER 93254-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 16th day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of EDITH W. HUTTON, who died September 15, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an

actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 16th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF EDITH W. HUTTON

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 SAMANTHA HUTTON-METHENEY
 372 EAST DRIVE
 OAK RIDGE, TN 37830

ROBERT W. WILKINSON, ATTORNEY
 CHRISTY WHITE, ATTORNEY
 P. O. BOX 4415
 OAK RIDGE, TN 37831-4415

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF TILMAN E. LONG DOCKET NUMBER 93096-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 16th day of October, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of TILMAN E. LONG, who died on August 12, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 16th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF TILMAN E. LONG

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 SHEILA L. PURNELL
 1007 GARDEN ROSE COURT
 WESLEY CHAPEL, NC 28104

BARBARA W. CLARK, ATTORNEY
 2415 E. MAGNOLIA AVENUE
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37917

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF PATSY NELSON PRITCHETT DOCKET NUMBER 92060-1

Notice is hereby given that on the 31 day of July, 2026, letters testamentary in respect of the Estate of PATSY NELSON PRITCHETT, who died December 13, 2025, were issued to the undersigned by the Clerk and Master of the Chancery Court of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against his or her estate are required to file the same with the Clerk and Master of the above named Court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 31 day of JULY, 2026.

ESTATE OF PATSY NELSON PRITCHETT

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 VICKI P. KIEFFER, EXECUTRIX
 421 ALLEN ROAD
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37920

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

ESTATE OF COLLEEN LORNA THOMAS DOCKET NUMBER 93232-2

Notice is hereby given that on the 14th day of October, 2026, letters testamentary (or letters of administration as the case may be) in respect of the Estate of COLLEEN LORNA THOMAS, who died August 18, 2026, were issued to the undersigned by the Chancery Court, Probate Division, of Knox County, Tennessee. All persons, resident and non-resident, having claims, matured or unmatured, against the estate are required to file the same with the clerk of the above named court on or before the earlier of the dates prescribed in (1) or (2), otherwise their claims will be forever barred:

(1)(A) Four (4) months from the date of the first publication of this notice if the creditor received an actual copy of this notice to creditors at least sixty (60) days before the date that is four (4) months from the date of the first publication; or

(B) Sixty (60) days from the date the creditor received an actual copy of the notice to creditors if the creditor received the copy of the notice less than sixty (60) days prior to the date that is four (4) months from the date of first publication as described in (1)(A); or

(2) Twelve (12) months from the Decedent's date of death.

This the 14th day of OCTOBER, 2026.

ESTATE OF COLLEEN LORNA THOMAS

PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE(S)
 MEGAN LYNN LEHMANN
 3440 BEN ALDER LANE
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37931

BRENDEN S. MORIARTY, ATTORNEY
 1111 N. NORTHSHORE DRIVE, SUITE S-700
 KNOXVILLE, TN 37919

MISC. NOTICES

PUBLIC NOTICE

**THE KNOX COUNTY ETHICS COMMITTEE
 WILL MEET ON WEDNESDAY,
 NOVEMBER 4, 2026, AT 8:30 A.M.
 IN THE MAIN ASSEMBLY ROOM
 OF THE CITY-COUNTY BLDG.,
 400 W. MAIN STREET, KNOXVILLE, TN 37902**

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL
2. AMENDMENTS TO THE AGENDA
3. DEVOTIONAL
4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG
5. APPROVAL OF MAY 13, 2026 MINUTES
6. NEW BUSINESS
 - RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS
 - REORGANIZATION OF COMMITTEE
7. OLD BUSINESS
8. ADJOURNMENT

**NOTE: ALL AGENDA ITEMS ARE
 SUBJECT TO A VOTE.**

LEGAL SECTION 94

Knox County will receive bids for the following items and services:

BID 3772, NEW K-8 SCHOOL/KNOX COUNTY SCHOOLS, Due 12/03/26

BID 3775, WORKERS' COMPENSATION COVERAGE FOR E-911, Due 11/23/26

For additional information call 865-215-5777, stop by the Procurement Division, 1000 North Central St., Suite 100, Knoxville, TN 37917, or visit our website: www.knoxcounty.org/procurement. To bid on Knox County surplus items, go to www.govdeals.com.

**You can reserve your legal or public notice by emailing
legals@knoxfocus.com or calling (865) 686-9970.**